

THE HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

RODERICK O. MATHESON, EDITOR

FRIDAY MORNING,
JULY 2, 1915.

THE ADVERTISER'S SEMI-WEEKLY

Hawaii Loses Again

THE direct announcement from the attorney general that he does not intend to recommend the reappointment of Judge W. L. Whitney will be received with very general regret throughout Oahu, not because the failure to reappoint Judge Whitney to the bench will be any particular loss to him, personally, but because it deprives the bench of one who has, in every essential, made good, and it deprives the Territory of the services of one who has shown himself especially adapted for juvenile court work.

Hawaii, by this time, has grown accustomed to having the territorial bench made use of for the rewarding of "deserving Democrats," but it is hard to predict just whom the attorney general has in mind in this particular case. The Hawaiian Bar Association has, with the exception, we believe, of but one vote, unanimously requested the reappointment of Judge Whitney, but, of course, in these days of feeding the hungry and clothing the naked, such a thing as a bar association recommendation goes no where.

The best we can do under the circumstances is to hope that the worst is not yet to come.

Splendid Work

A RECORD for straight-forward dealing out of justice has been set by the Oahu board of license commissioners. The members, sitting as a quasi-judicial body, have gone to the bottom of a nasty state of affairs in local wholesale and retail liquor circles, have brought to light facts in which the community is much interested and have dealt out justice accordingly, without fear or favor. Nothing within the reach of the committee was allowed to be suppressed, irrespective of whom was hit. In deciding upon its course of action, following the introduction of all available evidence, the board acted impartially, with all considerations but strict justice to the individuals concerned apud to the community laid aside.

Oahu is to be congratulated on having a commission of this kind, composed of men of the standing and fearlessness of the present commissioners, to oversee and regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors in this city and environs.

It is safe to say that the lesson which has been taught the liquor men at the recent session of the board will be remembered. The day of misrepresentation, the day of "frenzied finance" in the realm of booze, the day of the irresponsible has gone, for the immediate future at least.

Age of Efficiency

A CURIOUS thing is this world-wide agitation against the sale of alcoholic liquors. Russia stops the sale of vodka, Germany restricts the manufacture of beer, France shuts down on the sale of absinthe, and England seriously considers the prohibition of all liquor traffic. These are some of the larger manifestations of the movement against drinking, says William Allen White, the widely known editor and author. But in every country the ban of insurance companies is upon the drinking man. The railroad employe all over the civilized world today must be so nearly a teetotaler that the old glad life of unrestricted booze-fighting has passed from him forever. The coming of steam and electricity has done many things to change the face of civilization, but by speeding up machinery, steam and electricity have changed the face of skilled labor more than anything else. They have bleached him out. The hard drinker can't hold his job in any factory today where efficiency methods are used.

As men in the machine rooms have had to stop drinking, the increased speed they have generated has compelled a faster pace in the office. Officers all over the world are dropping liquor. Ten years ago bad form consisted in carrying too much liquor into the day's work at the office. Twenty years ago bad form expressed itself in being drunk during working hours. Fifty years ago a protracted spree was frowned upon. But today the man who breezes into the office after lunch with the aroma of beer or a cocktail about him, is viewed with suspicion, if not with alarm. Personal liberty is getting more of a jolt from the customs of civilization than it is from the laws in the local option and prohibition States. For, as a matter of fact, the law merely follows public opinion. The change in the constitution of a State comes only after the habits of a considerable minority—if not a majority—have changed.

It is not prohibitory law that is closing the breweries so much as it is the wise little man in the factory and in the office who quietly decides, without putting on a parade after his decision, that he will cut out the booze. When he and his neighbors meet to talk it over, the town goes dry, and the State, when enough counties are dry, itself moves out of the wet column. And the liquor dealers' association views with alarm, and blames its troubles upon the prohibition cranks. They are glad of the honor conferred. But they really don't deserve it.

Among the local institutions which have achieved good results the Honolulu School for Boys ranks high. Its past record has entitled it to a permanent place in our educational system and it is hoped that the endeavor of its trustees to establish an endowment fund will meet with the success it deserves.

Again!

The government of the United States is contending for something much greater than mere rights of property or privilege of commerce. It is contending for nothing less high and sacred than the rights of humanity, which every government honors itself in respecting and which no government is justified in resigning on behalf of those under its care and authority. Only her (the Lusitania) actual resistance to capture or refusal to stop when ordered to do so for the purpose of visit could have afforded the commander of the submarine any justification for so much as putting the lives of those on board the ship in jeopardy. It is upon this principle of humanity as well as upon the law founded upon this principle that the United States must stand.—American Note to Germany, June 10.

UNLESS it be shown that the Canadian liner Armenian, sunk yesterday while en route from Newport News to a British port, was actually under charter to the British government, everything which President Wilson said in his first note regarding the sinking of the Lusitania and repeated, as above quoted, in his second note, as yet unanswered, must apply.

"The principle of humanity" means a fair warning to a ship and her crew, a chance for life before being struck an unseen blow, the difference between the killing of a foramen and the murdering of a non-combatant, and that principle appears to have been wholly lacking in the sinking of the Armenian and the killing of twenty Americans in her crew.

"Upon this principle the United States must stand," declares the President.

"Upon it every traveler and seaman has a right to depend," says the American note.

The reply to the first American note was the torpedoing of the steamship Nebraskan.

The reply to the second American note appears to be the sinking of the Armenian and the drowning of twenty unwarmed American seamen.

If it develops that the Armenian should be classed as a British government transport, her destruction in the way she was sunk is justified under the stern rules of war. But if the facts show other wise, the incident can mean nothing but a freak with Germany.

And this is certain—so long as German submarines continue to attack unwarmed shipping the danger always remains that the United States will be forced into war to uphold her rights. Either that, or President Wilson did not mean what he said, and the American nation is prepared to announce to the world that she is unwilling or unable, or both, to defend her citizens and her rights.

There need be no argument about the usefulness of children's playgrounds. That has been demonstrated, first at the Beretania street playgrounds opened up and maintained by the Free Kindergarten Association and later at the Palama playgrounds, opened and maintained by the Palama Settlement.

Honolulu should not rest content to have this work solely supported by private philanthropy, however ungrudgingly that is given. This is a serious community and should take care of its own pressing problems, which include the creation and maintenance of an orphanage and a "poor farm," on one end of the list, and the free playgrounds on the other.

At any rate, Honolulu should take advantage of the reasonable offer now made to it for the sale of the at present leased parks. Buy it at all possible; lease on a long term agreement if that is the best that can be done, securing an option to purchase. The Bishop Estate, which makes the offer, may not repeat it.

Coal for Refugees

IN stating that the Inter-Island company will not sell unlimited amounts of coal supplied from Australia to German steamships, Mr. Klebahn is not making any "sensational charge," but simply stating what everyone knows. Australia, in protecting British interests, made one of the conditions of sale of coal to Hawaii that it should not be supplied to an enemy of Great Britain, and Australia acted within her rights. The meat which came for months to Honolulu from New Zealand was imported under the same pledge, and the New Zealand government allowed the exportation, relying on the good faith of the Hawaiian importers.

It is quite legitimate for Mr. Klebahn to complain, but he can hardly expect the Inter-Island to break its word of honor to oblige the captains of the various ships here for refuge.

Even if there were a disposition on the part of the Inter-Island to violate its word, it would be a mighty poor business for Hawaii, inasmuch as this port is dependent upon the Australian mine; and our supply may be cut off at any time the Australian government so desires. It was a favor to Hawaii and the Philippines that the embargo on the export of coal and meat from the Colonies was lifted and the least we can do is to keep faith. Our pledges are not "scraps of paper," but the honorable promises of honorable men.

Just A Square Deal

A "remarkable record" is what Facts About Sugar says of the progress of the sugar industry in Hawaii. Considering the limited area of the islands and the obstacles that had to be overcome to bring much of this area under cultivation, it is doubtful, says that publication, if it ever has been equaled by any other agricultural industry in any other part of the world. Unremitting labor, daring enterprise, generous expenditure of capital, and scientific study of every detail of the business have united to carry the Hawaiian sugar industry to the highest point of efficiency. Incidentally the growth which it has recorded effectually disposes of the claim advanced by the foes of the industry that its progress has not been commensurate with the advantages it has enjoyed. An industry that multiplies its output fifty times in four decades certainly cannot be accused of lack of progress.

Sugar production in Hawaii was established and built up, we may fairly say, in response to the direct invitation of the United States. That invitation, in the form of preferential access to the American market, was issued in 1876, when Hawaii was an independent nation and when its sugar industry was in its infancy. In response to it practically all the industrial resources of this insular community have been devoted to this one industry, so that the statement often heard in the islands, that "Hawaii's bread is buttered on both sides with sugar," is literally true.

Throughout the period of nearly forty years the sugar grown in Hawaii has enjoyed the same privileges in the American market as has that produced in any part of the United States. The advantages Hawaii have been great. The returns to the American people have been no less great. They have included a steadily increasing supply of sugar mounting now to no less than one-seventh of all that is consumed in the United States. They include also the command of a market for over \$30,000,000 of American products and the control of a position of strategic commercial and political importance in the great territory bordering the Pacific.

As a result of her decision to become part and parcel of the United States, Hawaii has been compelled to accept certain commercial disadvantages in connection with the handling of her most important crop. In the effort to make her population fully American she has been required to relinquish unrestricted access to a limitless supply of cheap labor such as her tropical competitors enjoy. In order to send her sugar to the mainland under the American flag she is forced to pay more than other "captive countries" pay for a much longer haul. She uses her machinery, her foodstuffs, practically all her supplies, in the protected market of the United States. Under the terms of the free sugar law, that law notwithstanding, the only compensating advantage which she enjoys is soon to be withdrawn, while these handicaps, which will make impossible the continuation of her one important industry, are to remain. The result will be certain and overwhelming disaster.

With equal conditions as to labor, transportation and cost of supplies, Hawaii could compete in sugar production with any country. So long as the European war maintains the price of sugar at or near its present level the free admission of foreign grown sugar will not embarrass her. But with the passing of this temporary influence at any time after May 1, 1916, such competition will be impossible. Hawaii asks for no special or exceptional consideration. All that she asks is a square deal. Is that to be denied her?

The Hilo Tribune remarks that there are those in Hawaii quite ready to tell the President how he should act internationally who would not dare resume to suggest to a plantation manager how to do anything.

The next thing is to find Bartlett and bring him back. We venture to suggest that he will have a number of interesting incidents to disclose if he ever again sees the sunny shores of Oahu. The man who is sent after Bartlett might also bring logs back to Honolulu, thus cutting down overhead expenses.

The New York Nation points out that seldom as a public man been given such an opportunity to give his country joy by keeping still for a while now confronts William Jennings Bryan. In regard to the German notes, the same journal remarks that it would be unbecoming of Bryan to scuss them, even if he were as competent to do as he is incompetent.

The more information that "leaks out" regarding the federal grand jury investigation into alleged British recruiting in California, the less substance there appears to be in the allegations. It would be rather ridiculous to suppose that anyone would induce enlisted army and navy men to desert for service abroad and then ship them a way of New York, clear across the continent, when the Canadian line is so handy. It is further rather ridiculous to suppose that a hundred thousand dollars (as spent in California, when the same amount of money spent on recruiting in Canada would ring ten times the number of men. Recent events have shown how easy it is to get "evidence." Those affidavits regarding the Lusitania guns, for instance, and the cooked up testimony concerning the building of submarines in Seattle. That there were recruits for the British army sent from California is very probable. Some forty or fifty have been sent from Hawaii, too, but there has been no violation of neutrality. There was no occasion or any breach of the law here, and probably no more on the Coast.

Unreachable 'Open Door'

THIS week, the state department formally notified Japan and China that the United States would not recognize any agreement between the two oriental nations which would prejudice American commerce in China. Japan must not shut "the open door," even with China's sanction, declared the American note, delivered in duplicate at Tokio and Peking.

With such a declaration of policy, none in America will be found to disagree, but what does the government of the United States intend to do in addition to writing notes? It is all very well to insist upon the "open door," but what benefit is that doorway to be, provided the avenue leading to it is shut?

Washington's shipping policy may have been framed to mean something else, but it is working out in practice to hasten the elimination of American shipping in the Pacific so far as the Oriental carrying trade is concerned. Recent legislation throws the trade of the Pacific into the hands of the Japanese, with their subsidized steamship lines, and it is rather a far-fetched idea to suppose that the Japanese government is going to allow its subsidized steamers to divert to the United States trade with China that can be done by Japan.

The Japanese lines will be used only to carry American raw products to Japan for manufacture for the Chinese trade, not for the carrying of American manufactures to China, whether the door be open or closed. The United States has few ships of its own to transport its goods and these few are being driven out of business. When the Pacific is clear for the Japanese steamship lines, in which the government is interested through its subsidies, and in which the Mikado is reported to be interested personally as an investor, those steamship lines are going to conduct their business in the best interests of the Japanese, not in the interests of Americans. That should be a self-evident proposition.

Tokio can well afford to answer the American note by complete assurances that the "open door" will stay open, because the "open door" signifies nothing without the means of reaching it.

The Country Over

ADVERTISING matter that is intended primarily to reach the farmer is rapidly disappearing from the American countryside, according to a writer in the Breeder's Gazette, a progressive agricultural periodical. The farmer is reached in these days by vendors of commodities in other ways. The rural delivery postal system brings him circulars, catalogues, magazines, and, of course, his regular daily newspaper. He is more beautifully supplied with advertising matter in general than ever before, and, we believe it may truly be said, by a better kind of advertising matter.

But there is another and an even more satisfactory explanation for the decline of the rural roadside advertisement, adds the Christian Science Monitor. The American farmer has grown out of toleration of it. The writer referred to is right, we think, in saying that the farmer is coming to value the beauty about him and to see in the countryside something more than a site for billboard stands. He is no longer willing, as a rule, to have his barn roof, his fences, his gates, or even the fine old tree in front of his farm converted into a cheap advertising agency.

This is the best part of it. Laws for the prevention of the disfigurement of nature, to say the least, are difficult of enforcement in a democratic nation. If the American farmer is set on encouraging those who plaster the country districts with advertising signs, it is difficult to see how he can be moved by law from the error of his way. Legally, he has a right to use the roof of his barn or the front of his home as a billboard. Not much is gained by threatening him. He is seldom intimidated into doing anything he does not wish to do. But if he is learning to respect nature, to appreciate the simple grandeur of rural scenery, to see that he has no moral right to permit the disfigurement of his land even though he hold it in fee simple, then the light against the wayside advertiser is as good as won.

The Armenian placed herself in the position of a belligerent when she attempted to escape the attack of a German submarine and the sinking of the ship was a justifiable act of war. It is gratifying to be able to note that the players of the great international game are getting back somewhere near the rules. The German commander acted fairly and the British commander is the first man to say so.

No wonder the German government suppressed the Socialist organ Vorwaerts. In a recent issue that paper described the German-Americans and their organizations as "bourgeois elements which had heretofore only been able to work together to defend their beer steins from the prohibitionists."

The net result of yesterday's no-quorum meeting of the chamber of commerce was to demonstrate that four out of five of the members of the promotion committee agreed that as an executive H. P. Wood had failed and should be replaced; that the regular audit and the special audit of his accounts showed glaring errors of omission and commission; that he has not attempted an explanation of these errors; that he took advantage of the fact that he had a lease made out in his own name on behalf of the promotion committee and then charged the committee \$225 to cancel it, and, last but not least, that eleven out of fourteen members of the chamber present endorsed and kokuaed his actions. It was a noble victory for efficiency and a splendid example for the chamber of commerce to set the rest of the community.

MUNICIPAL MONEY CHEST IS BULGING WITH LICENSE COIN

Ninety-two Hundred Dollars Swell Treasury As Result of First Day's Business

BREAKS ALL RECORDS OF PREVIOUS YEARS

City Treasurer Conkling Estimates That Total Collections Will Reach \$120,000

Municipal money coffers bulged to the extent of \$9200 when City Treasurer Conkling closed his "office" last night. This represents the money collected by the office yesterday for city licenses. Incidentally, the figures smash all records for first day collections. Last year the first day receipts were about \$6000 and in the preceding two years were a trifle less than that sum. Conkling stated last night that he expected the office to collect fully \$100,000 in the next ten days and that the receipts for the coming year from licenses would be from \$115,000 to \$120,000.

When the offices were opened yesterday morning a line of license applicants was waiting at the door. From that time until the offices closed at four o'clock the line remained continuous and Clerks Rose and Rosa were kept busy at the receiving wickets taking in duels and issuing little slips of paper which gave privilege to continue in business.

Applicants for licenses were big and little and all were handled with the same despatch. Representatives of four different banks stepped forward with their contributions of \$750 each to conduct their business. An awa dealer singled up his \$300. Hack drivers stood patiently in line to deposit their big silver dollar for the good of the cause.

When closing time came a long line was still waiting. They can return today or in several days to come, as Treasurer Conkling says he will keep his offices open for license issuing for ten days. The office hours will be from eight thirty o'clock in the morning until four o'clock in the afternoon.

Conkling pointed out last night that applicants could greatly facilitate the work if they would observe two stringent regulations. The first is that the applicant must present an accounting of gross receipts of his business for the year ending June 30, 1915. The second is that he must present a certificate from the tax office showing that his taxes are paid up to June 30.

"We were well pleased with the collections today and naturally were gratified that all first day records were broken," Conkling added. "Rose and Rosa must be given credit for the way they handled the continuous line of applicants. Everything went along without a hitch. We have been aided materially by the co-operation of the board of health. It is mandatory that every applicant for a license must also have a certificate showing that his place of business is sanitary and healthy and the board prepared for this admirably and to great assistance to us."

There were several surprises when renewals of licenses were asked for. For instance, a lodging house keeper who heretofore has only paid two dollars and a half a year for the privilege of conducting his house nearly fainted when he was informed that the tax for the coming year would be fifty dollars. It was explained to him that the law now says that keepers of lodging houses with ten or more rooms are now designated as hotel keepers and that fifty dollars was now the license ex-entment. The lodging house keeper listened, handed out fifty dollars wearily and received his little slip of paper.

On the other hand a restaurant keeper who had long held his place in the line and who has paid licenses for many years threw over five ten-dollar gold pieces "just like that." He received the surprise of his life when the clerk handed back ten dollars and told him the license cost only forty dollars. Another new law had gone in effect.

One man wanted to go hunting and inquired if he had to have a license. He was told politely that such would be the requirement; that he would be required to pay five dollars for such privilege and in addition would have to pay fifty cents for the stamps which would be affixed on his little piece of paper. He was informed that he would be given a small brass tag free of charge with the provision that the tag must be tied onto his fowling piece when he started out on his hunting excursions.

The almsd demurred a little at the five dollars and half but the argument was clinched when the clerk announced that informers on hunters who go in quest of game without a license are entitled by law to collect one-half of the fine imposed. In departure the clerk informed the new possessor of the license that if he violated the provision which requires that he keep his brass tag tied to his fowling piece he would be denied another license.

A MASTER REMEDY.
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